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forts, only partly opened. On the whole, the flower was a very creditable specimen, and the novelty of seeing so fine a one in broad daylight was duly appreciated. In half an hour more the sun, which shone dimly at times, was beginning to tell upon it. I cut it off, placed it in water in a dark room, where it remained with little change until 1:30 P. M., when it rapidly withered. Its companion was a little less ambitious in every respect, and was in its prime at 11:30 A. M., but being allowed to remain on the plant, proved more transient.

Other buds which reached maturity when the weather was warm opened in the usual manner.—BESSIE L. PUTNAM, *Harmonsbury, Penn.*

Ustilago Reiliana on corn.—*Ustilago Reiliana* Kühn was discovered several years ago at this place on sorghum and was first reported from here for America. Since then it has occurred in abundance in sorghum fields in other parts of the United States. Last year and this year it has been common in the experimental sorghum fields of this college; but up to this time has not been reported, to my knowledge, on *Zea Mays* from this continent, though found on that plant in Europe. The first stalk of corn affected by this smut was found in July of this year, and since then I have seen it quite frequent in fields about Manhattan. The smut usually appears first in the male inflorescence of the host plant, sometimes converting the whole upper part of the plant into a mass of smut, sometimes smutting only some of the flowers which are usually in this case enlarged and deformed. The whole plant is much dwarfed by the parasite, scarcely attaining more than half the normal size. The ears are small, and when not filled with the smut they are deformed, often very curiously, and scarcely ever develop any perfect grains. The rudimentary ears at each node from the base of the plant upward are nearly always affected. *Ustilago Reiliana* might be mistaken by the ordinary observer for *U. maydis*, the usual corn smut, and is perhaps more common than generally supposed; but they are easily distinguished when seen together. *U. Reiliana* has a more granular appearance, as if mixed with meal, due to the large colorless cells which accompany the spores. The fibers which remain in the smut mass are much larger than in *U. maydis*. The microscopic characters will of course distinguish the two species. A difference of greater economic importance lies in the fact that *U. Reiliana* attacks the whole plant, almost destroying it, while *U. maydis* is more local, and plants affected with it usually appear uninjured except at the point attacked by the parasite.—J. B. S. NORTON, *Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan.*